

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 OIC-04 AID-20

CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSF-04 NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-20 SPC-03

AF-10 SMI-01 /144 R

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EPA/AI:WMANSFIELD (SUB)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, US, JA

SUBJ: U.S.-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
POLLUTION

REF: (A) STATE 204201; (B) TOKYO 14062; (C) STATE 096565;
(D) TOKYO 15975

1. NEW CEQ CHAIRMAN PETERSON WAS SWORN IN ON NOVEMBER 30
AND LOOKS FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN SUBJECT CONFERENCE
AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TIME AND PLACE. IN LIGHT OF REFTEL D,
WE ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING IN TOKYO
APPROXIMATELY MID-APRIL. HOWEVER, WE WOULD VERY MUCH
PREFER TO HOLD MEETING DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 28 TO
PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SUBSTANCE OF THE UNEP
MONITORING WORKING GROUP MEETING, SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 11-20,
AND UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL'S SECOND MEETING, SCHEDULED
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FOR MARCH 11-22, BOTH SESSIONS AT NAIROBI. WE BELIEVE

THESE TWO UNEP MEETINGS ARE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF UNEP AND WOULD LIKE TO FULLY SHARE VIEWS WITH GOJ BEFORE MEETINGS ARE HELD. WE BELIEVE TWO FULL DAYS COULD WELL COVER A WORTHWHILE AGENDA SUCH AS OUTLINED BELOW.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE MEETING, WE VIEW THE BASIC OBJECTIVES AS GIVING VISIBLE HIGH-LEVEL RECOGNITION TO ONGOING ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPAN AND A REVIEW OF SERIES OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, ESPECIALLY UNEP MEETINGS. WHILE SIGNING OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS NOT RPT NOT ESSENTIAL TO MAINTENANCE OF BILATERAL COOPERATION OR SUCCESS OF MEETING, IT REMAINS DESIRABLE AS CONCRETE EXPRESSION OF IMPORTANCE TWO SIDES ACCORD TO THIS COOPERATION.

3. ALTHOUGH GOJ HAS GIVEN US NUMEROUS, IF OCCASIONALLY CONTRADICTORY, SIGNS THAT THEY NO LONGER REALLY INTERESTED IN CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT, WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT TO REACH AGREEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM EA DIRGEN MIKI AND RESPONSIBLE MOFA OFFICIALS OF FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS ON WHICH U.S. PREPARED TO AGREE TO CHANGES IF GOJ THEN PREPARED TO CONCLUDE RESULTING AGREEMENT:

(A) WE AGREE TO DROP FIRST SENTENCE OF ARTICLE V (REF C, PARAGRAPH 18) REFERRING TO "POINT OF COORDINATION" IF THIS WILL HELP AVOID COMPLICATIONS WITHIN GOJ BUREAUCRACY. FOURTH WORD IN SUBSEQUENT SENTENCE "ALSO" WOULD BE DROPPED.

(B) WITH REGARD TO ECONOMIC ISSUES, SPECIFIC NATURE OF GOJ OBJECTIONS REMAINS UNCLEAR TO US SINCE LANGUAGE OF ARTICLE IV (REF C, PARAGRAPH 16, 17) IS BASIS OF OECD GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND SUBSEQUENT OECD DECISIONS. IN FACT, JAPAN HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED U.S. IN PRESSING FOR MULTILATERAL COMMITMENT TO PROVISIONS TO WHICH PROPOSED AGREEMENT WOULD COMMIT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS BILATERALLY. HOWEVER, IF GOJ CAN AGREE, U.S. WILLING TO DROP THIRD SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 16, REF C, WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTAINS THE 4 ITEMS A-D. (FYI: WE REMAIN CONVINCED THAT REAFFIRMATION OF OECD PRINCIPLES BILATERALLY IS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT WITHOUT WHICH DOCUMENT WILL LACK ADEQUATE SUBSTANCE TO JUSTIFY GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT LEVEL AGREEMENT END FYI).

4. WITH OR WITHOUT AGREEMENT, WE TENTATIVELY PROPOSE FOLLOWING ISSUES FOR MINISTERIAL AGENDA:

(A) REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF ONGOING BILATERAL COOPERATION IN AIR POLLUTION, WATER POLLUTION, AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT;

(B) POSSIBLE NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION (EPA IS PRESENTLY CONSIDERING POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS. EMBASSY SHOULD QUERY GOJ RE THEIR IDEAS FOR NEW INITIATIVES);

(C) REVIEW IMPORTANT DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS AND PROJECTION OF TRENDS OVER NEAR FUTURE, PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO EFFECTS OF ENERGY SHORTAGES ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICIES AND MEASURES;

(D) UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME:

- SECRETARIAT REPORT TO SECOND GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING IN NAIROBI;

- MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MONITORING.

(E) MULTILATERAL COOPERATION:

- CONVENTION ON LAND-BASED SOURCES OF MARINE POLLUTION;

- STEPS TO ENCOURAGE RATIFICATION OF EXISTING CONVENTIONS: ENDANGERED SPECIES, OCEAN DUMPING, IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONVENTIONS;

- OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE: RELEASE OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION.

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(F) WHALES.

5. IN ADDITION TO FORMAL DISCUSSIONS, OF ABOUT TWO DAYS DURATION, WE WOULD HOPE U.S. TEAM VISIT COULD INCLUDE FIELD TRIP TO IMPORTANT POLLUTION CONTROL INSTALLATION, SUCH AS AIR POLLUTION MONITORING AND CONTROL WORKS, IN OSAKA, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND EMPLOY ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR CONTROL SULFUR OXIDES EMISSIONS.

6. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY ABOVE, WITH ATTENTION FIRST GIVEN TO TIMING OF MEETING, AND REPORT JAPANESE REACTIONS ASAP. PLEASE ASSURE MOFA WE FULLY UNDERSTAND GOJ DIFFICULTIES IN HOLDING MEETING DURING BUDGET HEARING CYCLE, BUT WE ALSO WANT TO ENSURE THAT GOJ CONSIDERS TIMING WITH FULL APPRECIATION OF U.S. VIEWS

RE IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON UNEP. PORTER

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